

## **Press Clippings 10/03/2018**

**---The Daily Herald—10/03/18**

### **Longtime Elgin teacher, youth coach remembered for dedication to children**

**By Madhu Krishnamurthy**



Robert "Bob" L. Pleticha Jr



-Bob Pleticha, head coach and founder of the Elgin Sharks Track Club, works with runner Shailey Rodriguez, 8, of Elgin, during practice at Channing Park in Elgin. Pleticha dedicated his life to teaching, coaching and mentoring Elgin-area youth. He died Sept. 27

A lifelong teacher, mentor and coach to Elgin-area youth, Robert "Bob" L. Pleticha Jr., 76, of Elgin, died Sept. 27 at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield.

Pleticha, a Vietnam War veteran and combat medic, taught for 32 years in Elgin Area School District U-46 -- 22 of them at Channing Elementary School in Elgin and 10 at Fox Meadow Elementary School in South Elgin -- before retiring in 2008. He founded the Elgin Sharks Track Club in 1980 and was head coach and mentor to thousands of children.

Pleticha had a rough childhood and "just wanted to be there for the kids," said his wife, Mary Pleticha.

"He just had a desire to give kids what they needed, and possibly things he missed out on in his life," she said. "He just had a huge heart."

In 2015, the city of Elgin declared Nov. 18 "Bob Pleticha Day" to honor his dedication to the community and passion for working with youth.

"He just dedicated his time to kids," Elgin Mayor David Kaptain said. "He wanted to help them ... no matter where they came from or what they looked like."

Kaptain said every year Pleticha would send Christmas cards to the mayor's office on behalf of the children he coached.

"They had sparkles in them ... there were sparkles everywhere, all over my desk, all over my office floor," Kaptain said. "It was from the kids thanking us for helping them out. Those were the kinds of personal touches that Bob did for people that made it special. When he wasn't teaching anymore, he still continued to give back to the kids and the community ... that spoke highly of him, his character as a person."

A proclamation honoring Pleticha's service will be read at the next Elgin City Council meeting, Kaptain added.

A 1963 graduate of Willowbrook High School and later Judson University in Elgin, Pleticha's achievements include being an intercollegiate, national and international powerlifting champion. He was inducted into the Judson University Sports Hall of Fame in 2016 and Elgin Sports Hall of Fame in 2017. Pleticha was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease four years ago. He found his illness hard to accept because he was used to being strong, Mary Pleticha said.

"Those four years were tough," she said. "He competed in his last powerlifting competition in 2011. He was just shy of 69 years."

Aside from teaching and coaching, Pleticha loved gardening and animals. He spent much time caring for frogs, fish and hamsters in his classroom, and raised squirrels and doves at home.

He is survived by brothers Paul and Mike Pleticha, sisters Susan Falco and Penny Estes, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation for Pleticha is from 4 to 9 p.m. Friday at Laird Funeral Home, 310 S. State St., Elgin, and from 1 p.m. Saturday until time of service at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 400 Fulton St., Elgin. Mass will begin at 2 p.m. followed by burial with honors at Lakewood Memorial Park in Elgin.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Elgin Sharks Track Club, [Parkinson's Foundation](#) or [ASPCA](#).

## **---The Daily Herald—10/03/18**

### **Elgin High School to host U-46 Marching Band Showcase**

#### **Clinic Oct. 4**

##### **Submitted by Elgin Area School District U-46**

Elgin Area School District U-46's five high school marching bands will convene Thursday, Oct. 4, for the third annual U-46 Marching Band Showcase at Elgin High School.

It will be 5:55 p.m. to 8:05 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, at Memorial Stadium, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin.

Each high school marching band will participate in a performance and an on-field clinic from guest instructors John Apple and Leigh Apple, who serve as consultants to Drum Corps International, Bands of America, and Winter Guard International, and Joe Roach, the executive director of the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps.

When one band is performing, all bands will watch. When that band is receiving its clinic, the next band will move to the warm-up area for a brief warm-up before taking the field.

"The clinician will be encouraged to tailor the clinic not just to the students on the field, but also to educate the spectators in the stands on the nuances of what our students are doing," said EHS Band Director Robert Sanchez, who added that he was appreciative of

how the school's Athletic Department supports the event. "It's always a great night and a unique opportunity to hear a lot of the musical talent we have in the District."

The marching band showcase is free.

It will begin with the national anthem and welcome at 5:55 p.m., followed by South Elgin High at 6 p.m., Larkin High at 6:25 p.m., Bartlett High at 6:50 p.m., Streamwood High at 7:15 p.m., and Elgin High at 7:40 p.m.

## **---The Courier-News---10/03/18**

**Bob Pleticha 1942-2018**

### **‘Coach P’ founded Elgin Sharks Track Club**

**Retired teacher remembered for dedication, heart**

**By Mike Danahey**



-Bob Pleticha was a champion weightlifter and the Elgin Sharks Track Club's founder. He died Thursday. (Elgin Sharks Track Club)



An Elgin track coach, teacher and champion powerlifter is being remembered for his tenacity in pushing young athletes to do their best, his belief in the value of learning and a gruff exterior that hid a huge heart.

Bob Pleticha, founder of the Elgin Sharks Track Club and a retired School District U46 teacher, died Thursday at age 76.



-About 100 or so people turned out for a candlelight vigil held in Pleticha's honor Friday night in Channing Park, where the track team practices.

"He was such a caring man. He put everyone ahead of himself, and he wanted the kids to be the best they could be," Pleticha's widow, Mary, said.

Pleticha started the track club in 1980 when he was a teacher at Channing Elementary School in Elgin.

"He was like a father to me. He did everything for me," Jose Uriostegui, 39, said.

"Coach P" served as a medic during the Vietnam era, inspiring Uriostegui to join the U.S. Army and serve for 18 years, he said. It also led to Uriostegui coaching track and cross country at Larkin High School in Elgin and to forming the fledgling Elgin Road Warriors running team.

Richard Childs, 22 and a senior at North Park University in Chicago, started running for the Sharks at age 5 and recalled Pleticha's "tough love" approach to coaching.

"He was hard on us but not in a jerk kind of way," Childs said. "He used to egg us on by calling us fat chickens."

Samantha Staples, 22, said such comments only encouraged her and her sister, Haley, 27, to try harder. Both wound up being champion runners at Crystal Lake Central High

School and receiving college scholarships — Samantha heading to the University of Kentucky and Haley attending Indiana University.

Christine Durrant said her daughters, Heather and Hannah, 13, and Alyssa, 16, also became strong athletes under Pleticha's direction. The girls called Pleticha their secret weapon for competing, and the twins recently wrote about their coach as a hero for a class assignment, she said.

Durrant and others recalled that if someone wouldn't show up for practice, Pleticha would call them or show up at their door to get them to come back.

Pleticha would recruit runners at such places as Walmart and the track at The Centre in downtown Elgin, where Anali Cisneros, 20, said he spotted her when she was 10. She said her siblings Giovanni, 17, and Nayeli, 19, took part in running program, too.

Anali Cisneros and her sister went on to receive athletic scholarships to Judson University in Aurora. And Cisneros credits Pleticha for turning her into a champion race-walker, giving her the opportunity to compete in Europe and South America.

"He gave his all for the team," said Pia Santiago, who has been coaching the Sharks for 15 years. Her children Solinar, 20, Edgar, 17, and Cielo, 12, have taken part in the program.

Pia Santiago and other parents noted Pleticha's dedication. He would provide running shoes for those who couldn't afford them, drive runners to and from practices and meets, and take parts from old trophies to construct his own awards for his athletes each year.

Scott Kurth, a former coach for the Accelerators Running Club in the Fox Valley, said he knew Pleticha for 18 years and was initially told to be wary of Pleticha and his larger-than-life personality.

After getting to know him, however, Kurth learned, "Bob was a big-hearted teddy bear. ... He wanted his athletes to feel strong and to show the world what they could do. He could come across like (vitriolic college football coach) Woody Hayes, but he would always take the time afterward to explain why he did what he did. And he did so much for the area."

Acting Elgin Parks and Recreation Supervisor Maria Cumpata said of Pleticha, "He not only taught about the joy of running but also of the life skills that are learned from being part of a team and an organization like the Sharks. He will be missed by many."

Pleticha also won national and international weightlifting and powerlifting competitions during his lifetime. He was inducted into the Elgin Sports Hall of Fame in 2017 and the Judson University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016.

A visitation for Pleticha will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. Friday at Laird Funeral Home, 310 S. State St., Elgin. A funeral Mass is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 397 Fulton St., Elgin, followed by a graveside ceremony at Lakewood Memorial, 30W730 Route 20.

**---The Courier-News---10/03/18**

## **District U46 to pay resource officers more**

### **Board approves 1-year deal with area departments**

**By Rafael Guerrero**

School District U46 will pay 3.4 percent more annually to have local police departments provide resource officers for middle schools and high schools under contracts unanimously approved Monday by the school board.

The one-year, \$1.05 million deal covers salaries, overtime and event security for the 14 police officers who work at District U46 schools on a full-time basis. The agreement is between the school district and the Elgin, South Elgin, Bartlett and Streamwood municipal governments and police departments.

The district paid officer salaries totaling \$921,950 in the 2017-18 school year and will pay \$956,018 for the 2018-19 school year. Additional expenses like overtime pay and event security will remain \$89,500 under the new pact,.

Under the new 2018-19 contract, which is retroactive to August and will expire in July 2019, the salary paid for each of the seven officers supplied by the Elgin Police Department will be \$70,417. Streamwood's three officers are the next highest paid at \$69,921 each, followed by \$66,066 each for Bartlett's two officers and \$60,602 each for two South Elgin officers, according to the respective contracts.

John Heiderscheidt, District U46's school safety and culture director, said the only contract with notable changes is the one with Elgin.

The new deal allows the Elgin police chief to select the student resource officers rather than the decision being made jointly by police, school and district officials, Heiderscheidt said. New language also addresses the potential use of body cameras worn by officers on duty in schools, he said.

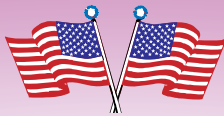


# The Examiner of BARTLETT

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Number 21

"IF I WERE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A NEWSPAPER OR A NEWSPAPER WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT, I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO CHOOSE THE LATTER." THOMAS JEFFERSON

75 cents  
October 3, 2018



Village may reduce  
healthcare expense  
See ..... Page 5

Bartlett football  
dominates Wildcats  
See ..... Page 20

## Votes hike water rates, lower select speed limits

By Seth Hancock

The Village Board of Trustees approved of speed limit reductions as well as an increase in water rates in 2019 at its meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 18. The votes were 5-0, Trustee Vince Carbonaro was absent.

Speed limits were lowered from 30 miles per hour to 25 on Main Street as well as portions of Oak Avenue, North Avenue and Railroad Avenue. The new speed limits were put into effect 10 days after approval on Friday, Sept. 28.

The reduction stemmed from the village's Transit Oriented Development (TOD) plan.

During the town hall portion of the meeting, Steven Durfey expressed reservations with the change.

"I really believe the 30 mile an hour that's there right now is safe. I think it's reasonable.... I don't know if it's the right thing (to lower) because to be honest people probably may maintain the same speed anyway unless there's some kind of enforcement issue," Durfey said.

Trustee Michael Camerer also expressed hesitation with the plan during the process as there appeared to be no safety concerns present based on the village's traffic studies.

"This almost seems like, from looking at the traffic study when we looked at it previously, that there really weren't any issues," Camerer said on Sept. 4. "It isn't like there were massive amounts of speeding."

The village stated that its recommendation to lower speed limits not because of motorists speeding but rather to create more consistency in downtown speed limits, make pedestrians feel safer and to increase awareness of downtown businesses.

The water rate hikes, which have been planned, will increase resident's costs per 1,000 gallons of water from \$9.70 to \$11.76, a 21 percent hike, on

May 1, 2019. The hikes come as the village prepares for transition to Lake Michigan water, and originally the village projected rates to be between \$13.20 to \$13.80.

The board approved two other items concerning water projects, the first a \$588,000 expenditure (\$600,000 was budgeted) to Performance Construction & Engineering, LLC for a water main and sanitary sewer project at Villa Olivia.

An ordinance accepting the public improvements of a completed project by G4 Construction Group at Lot 4F at 1580 Hecht Court in the Brewster Creek Business Park was approved.

"The public improvements consist of an extension of the Village's water main system," wrote Bob Allen, village engineer, in a memo, and the ordinance transfers "ownership of the public improvements to the Village."

The board approved of a \$418,900 disbursement of tax increment financing (TIF) funds to Elmhurst Chicago Stone for the Bartlett quarry redevelopment.

"Elmhurst Chicago Stone advances funds from their own sources and receives a note from the Village to get reimbursement if and when there is sufficient tax increment to do so and after all other TIF obligations are paid," Todd Dowden, finance director, wrote in a memo.

Also approved was the purchase of a Ford F-250 truck from Currie Motors in Frankfort at a cost of \$27,601 (\$30,000 budgeted). It will replace a 2005 Ford F-350 truck with 101,000 miles which will be auctioned.

The board approved of a resolution regarding closed session meeting minutes which included the release of two, Item 2 of the Feb. 16, 2010 meeting and the full Feb. 17, 2015 meeting. There were 75 total, dating as far back as 2001, that were deemed to still need confidentiality.

Approved was an ordinance amend-

ment which formally appointed the management analyst, Sam Hughes, as the village's Freedom of Information Officer.

A request by the Bartlett High School Boosters was approved to allow a fire-

works display during homecoming week, that display occurring last week on Monday, Sept. 24.

A bill list totaling \$762,195 was approved. The municipal building fund (\$400,382) made up the largest share.



### Bubbling over at the finish

Caitlyn Villarin crossed the finish line amid bubbles at the Bartlett Nature Center, celebrating the 20th annual World Peace Day, on Saturday, Sept. 29. For story and more photos see page 10.

(Examiner photo by Juli Schatz)

## U-46 approves pact for school resource officers

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 approved the contracts to provide school resource officers (SRO) at all of the districts middle and high schools, at its meeting on Monday, Oct. 1. The vote was 6-0, board member John Devereux was absent.

The contracts were with four municipalities to provide 14 total full-time police officers: Seven from Elgin, three from Streamwood and two each from Bartlett and South Elgin. The contracts were approved by their respective village boards and or city council before coming to the school board.

The total cost will increase by 3.4 percent to \$1 million including a \$34,068 (3.7 percent) increase in base salary from \$921,950 to \$956,018. The budget on overtime for event security did not increase, remaining at \$89,500.

The annual salary for SROs in Elgin is \$70,417 (\$492,919 total for seven), for Streamwood is \$69,921 (\$209,763 total for three), for Bartlett is \$66,066 (\$132,132 total for two) and for South

Elgin is \$60,602 (\$121,204 total for two). The hourly overtime rate is \$69 for Elgin, \$67.48 for Bartlett, \$63.50 for South Elgin and \$50.43 for Streamwood.

At the Sept. 24 meeting when the contracts were presented to the school board, U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said the contracts were "pretty much the same contracts as before" with the exception of language changes regarding police body cameras in Elgin's contract.

John Heiderscheidt, director of safety and culture, wrote in a memo to the board regarding that change: "After legal review by the City and School District, language was included regarding Elgin Police officers body worn cameras while on-duty working in schools. If a police body worn camera is activated by the officer per department procedure, within IL Law, such recordings are student records and will be handled pursuant to the Illinois School Student Records Act

See U-46, pg. 5

## Village announces pride ownership winners

By Seth Hancock

Winners of the 2018 Pride in Ownership Award were announced at the Village Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 18.

Kevin Wallace, village president, announced the winners of the award that has been given out for 22 years. Winners receive a yard sign to display at their home as well as a gift card to Ace Hardware according to a memo from Joey Dienberg, administrative intern.

"The village congratulates all of the nominated and winning property owners and thanks them for helping to keep Bartlett beautiful," Wallace said.

This year, there were three single family home winners and two multi-family home winners. First place for single

family homes were Brenda and Tim Heeley off of Silver Court, and Carmena Cruz on Dunamon Drive was first place for multi-family homes.

Timothy Hund (Winchester Court) was second and the Ficarella family (Primrose Lane) third in the single family category. Phyllis Jensen (Thomas Court) was second in multi-family.

"The pride in ownership program was started in Bartlett in 1996 to recognize owners who do an outstanding job in maintaining their property," Wallace said. "The village calls out for nominees at the beginning of the summer and volunteer judges visit all of the nominated properties, evaluating them on general appearance, landscaping, curb appeal and creativity."



# Village healthcare changes may create reduced costs

By Seth Hancock

The Village Board of Trustees was presented with a health insurance plan that could save between 6.5 to 10 percent at its committee of the whole meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 18.

Discussions will continue but the board has to make a decision by the end of November according to the village's broker, Paul Miller of the Arachas Group. Open enrollment will start in December with the change starting on Jan. 1.

Janelle Terrance, human resources director, said the village staff has met with their broker several times and they've "developed a recommendation for a plan for the next one to three years."

The plan would be to shift the village's HMO (health maintenance organization) and PPO (preferred provider organization) plans to Blue Cross Blue Shield Standard Plans which Terrance said they would lose "grandfather status" but there would be a 5 percent cost saving off the bat. If no change is made, the village would face an increase of 3.04 percent with the current plans.

Terrance called the shift "pretty much a win-win for all of us" saying it would reduce both village and employee costs.

Currently the village spends about \$3.2 million on health insurance and this change would reduce that total to between \$2.8 million and \$3 million depending on employee enrollment.

Regarding HMOs, the village would shift from the HMO Illinois Network to the HMO Blue Advantage Network which Terrance said would reduce premiums and would have annual savings of \$84,485. This shift would affect two employees who would have to change providers.

The village would offer two PPO plans, one being a small network hybrid option called Blue Choice and the other a large network called Blue Print which Terrance said "mirrors" the current plan. Savings would be between \$121,120 to \$235,376 depending on enrollment.

Under union contracts the employee share under PPO plans is 15 percent, 10 percent for HMOs, and Terrance said employees who chose the large network PPO "would be required to pay up to stay with that network." She added that if every employee chose the hybrid option, that could affect up to 20 percent of employees regarding their healthcare providers.

Village President Kevin Wallace asked for a clarification on the employee share regarding the PPO plan which Terrance said the 85-15 share (village share-employee share) would remain but those who chose the large network plan would have to pay the difference of the added cost.

"It would be based on the dollars, not on a percentage," Trustee Aaron Reinke said which Terrance said was "correct."

"I would love to look at having the split for HMO, and if you choose anything other than the HMO you pay the difference," Wallace suggested. "So 85-15 on the HMO, and if you choose anything other than the HMO you're buying the extra premium for the higher policy."

Terrance said that would likely not be permitted under current union contracts.

"That's why we had to create the hybrid, to get around that collective bargaining?" Wallace asked. Terrance responded: "As long as we offer one of each, I think we're good with that."

Regarding prescription drugs, Terrance said the village is "well above the benchmarks" in terms of costs and the village is recommending a shift from a three-tier to a six-tier plan for co-pay which she called "good for everyone across the board."

A possible addition to the health insurance plan is a telemedicine component that would cost the village \$1.75 a month per employee enrolled in the system. Terrance said there would be overall savings based on better "educated consumerism."

Miller later said that there's an overutilization of emergency room visits in the village which the telemedicine system should reduce as employees can call a number from anywhere around the country with a general illness concern (i.e. allergies, pink eye, strep throat, etc.), interact with a doctor and have a prescription filled within an hour.

Terrance said there will be mandatory enrollment meetings with village staff and their spouses nearing the open enrollment period to educate employees.

"Our goal was to drive down overall costs, and I think with these recommendations we're on the right track to do that," Terrance said.

Trustee Adam Hopkins asked about a maximum out of pocket cost for employees. Miller said currently it's \$2,500 which would increase to \$3,000 for the hybrid PPO and \$6,000 for the large network PPO.

Wallace asked what deductibles would be with this shift which Miller said would be \$500 for the hybrid PPO and \$1,500 for the large network PPO.

Trustee Kristina Gabrenya asked how this shift would compare to other municipalities which Terrance said "we're right in line with comparables."

In a memo to the board, Terrance wrote that future changes in future years could include more "design changes relative to out of pocket expenses, removing spouses that have coverage through their employers, evaluating a retiree 'carve out' plan, and consideration of requiring new employees to enroll in HMO Plan coverage for the first year of employment."

## U-46

Continued from page 1

and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act."

Heiderscheidt's memo stated that there were no language changes to the Bartlett and South Elgin contracts and "minor word changes but nothing of substance" to Streamwood's.

Elgin's contract included further "minor" language changes according to Heiderscheidt as well as additional language that "the chief of police makes the final decision on selection of the Elgin police officer assigned as an SRO" and "the reporting officer only reports on the specific school designated."

## MIDWEST



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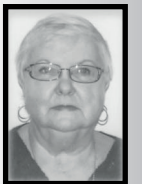
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## New member of Examiner team



Veronica Greco is a student at Eastview Middle School where her favorite subject is history. She is involved in dance and basketball. In her free time, Greco enjoys hanging out with friends. Greco will be delivering to Hackberry Court and Red Oak Drive.

(Examiner photo)

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# A View from the Cheap Seats



**Homophobic Hypocrisy**  
**By Rich Trzupek**  
South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham delivered an impassioned speech during last week’s hearing on Brett Kavanaugh’s nomination for the Supreme Court. It was one of those times when viewers knew that the speaker was speaking straight from the heart, which is unfortunately rare in Washington these days.

Graham’s remarks changed the whole tenor of the proceeding. The focus shifted. What had been a hearing about Kavanaugh’s alleged misconduct as a 17 year old became a hearing about why a Democrat Senator waited until the last possible minute to share the accusation and how that accusation was leaked to the press.

It was a seminal moment. Whether Graham’s remarks will save the Kavanaugh nomination or not remains to be seen. But, there is no doubt that but for Graham Kavanaugh’s chances would have been drastically lessened.

Nobody could avoid acknowledging the significance of Graham’s comments. That was as clear to the left as it was to the right. But, the reaction of some popular lefties was rather remarkable.

Graham has been widely rumored to be gay throughout his political career. He has never married and has no children. Graham has consistently said that he is not gay, but there are still many on both sides of the aisle who believe he is.

My personal reaction to this “controversy” is the same as it is whenever people decide to publicly speculate about what other people choose to do with their genitals: I don’t care. I don’t even remotely care. As long as it’s legal and involves consenting adults, I could not possibly care less how anyone seeks sexual satisfaction.

I know that many on the left continue to believe that homophobia is rampant among those of us on the right.

Fifty years ago, that was probably true. Today? The vast majority of us don’t give a damn.

Given the lefts’ constant concern about homophobia on the right, it’s hard to understand how prominent liberals chose to demean Graham.

Bill Maher, host of “Real Time with Bill Maher” said “The fact that Trump can either find people like him or make him... Lindsey Graham needs the stabilizing influence of his dead boyfriend,” referring to the late Senator John McCain.

Rosie O’Donnell called Graham a “f— u u closeted idiot” in a Tweet.

Comedian and actress Chelsea Handler Tweeted the following: “Holy f— f—. I just saw the video of Trump’s bipartisan ‘meeting’ yesterday. Hey @LindseyGrahamSC what kind of d-k-sucking video do they have on you for you 2 be acting like this? Wouldn’t coming out be more honorable?”

Those of us on the right get beaten up time and gain for supposedly being homophobic. Can you imagine any conservative issuing similar statements about a liberal opponent? They would be crucified by the mainstream media and the Democrat party.

But if you’re Maher, O’Donnell, Handler or anyone of similar points of view, you get a free pass. For them, if you’re a conservative you are automatically homophobic and if you’re a liberal you can never be homophobic, no matter what you say.

To be fair, a lot of leftists denounced Maher, O’Donnell and Handler for their remarks. But, as usual, that criticism was largely limited to social media. The mainstream media doesn’t have the guts to deal with that sort of hypocrisy.

New day. Same old story.

Email: rich@examinerpublications.com

## Storm volleyball goes 6-1 during busy week of play

**By Seth Hancock**  
The South Elgin volleyball team got the job done quick in a 25-7, 25-8 win over Elgin in Upstate Eight Conference play on Monday, Sept. 24 at South Elgin.

The Storm got contributions across the board with Angie Negrón (four digs) leading in the kills column with five, and they had 11 aces split between Hayley Fisher (eight aces, six digs, four kills) and Kendall Richardson (12 assists, five digs, three aces).

“The girls played with a lot of intensity and desire to win,” said South Elgin coach Joni Plach. “Elgin is a conference match and that gave them motivation to play well. It is getting toward the end of the season and I stress the importance to play focused each game.”

Anna Skrzypchak (12 assists), McKayla Geraghty (seven digs), Emily Wellman (six digs) and Rylee Pompa (three kills, two blocks) all contributed.

South Elgin went on to earn a 25-21, 25-19 nonconference win over Harvest Christian on Thursday, Sept. 27 at Harvest Christian.

Negrón against led the Storm offensively with eight kills, and she added seven digs and two aces. Negrón recently returned to the court the previous weekend after missing much of the year with an injury.

“It has been great having Angie back,” Plach said. “She was out for almost a month. I had to move the line up around when she was gone and had some girls playing in spots they have never played.”

Plach added: “The team is excited to have her back and everyone playing in positions they are used to playing in. Angie came back and starting playing as well as she was playing before she left.”

Fisher (seven kills, seven digs, four blocks, ace), Richardson (eight assists, three kills, ace), Pompa (five blocks), Skrzypchak (11 assists, nine digs, ace), Geraghty (11 digs, ace) and Wellman (six digs, ace) all contributed.

South Elgin the went 4-1 at the Hampshire Invite, its only loss coming against host Hampshire in a 25-23, 25-23 match on Saturday, Sept. 29. The Storm defeated Sycamore (25-16, 25-16), Woodstock (25-10, 25-20), Richmond-Burton (25-14, 25-17) and Bartlett (25-13, 25-11).

Skrzypchak (105 assists, 20 digs), Richardson (88 assists, 21 digs, 11 kills, eight aces), Wellman (54 digs, 25 assists, 13 aces), Fisher (43 digs, 27 kills, 11 aces), Negrón (30 kills, 16 digs), Pompa (21 kills, 14 blocks) and Geraghty (36 digs) led the Storm.

South Elgin is now 18-8 overall, 5-0 in the UEC.

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# Rectified mold concern allows reopening schools

By Seth Hancock

Two schools that were affected by mold are safe for students School District U-46 officials said.

U-46 CEO Tony Sanders addressed two recent cases of mold, one at South Elgin's Kenyon Woods Middle School and the other at Elgin's Coleman Elementary School, at the Board of Education meeting on Monday, Sept. 24.

Kenyon Woods was the most recent case leading to the closure of four classrooms in the building on Friday, Sept. 24 and again on Monday, Sept. 24. Coleman was forced to close the entire school on Thursday, Sept. 13 and it remained closed until Wednesday, Sept. 19 when classes resumed.

Regarding the Kenyon Woods case, Sanders said that as a chiller on the roof was being repaired a temporary chiller was used during the remediation.

"This weekend they cleaned the mold, did the air testing in the four classrooms that had mold and they were all clear as of today (Sept. 24)," Sanders said. "So at this point, we're all good."

The closure at Coleman was "a precautionary move after a visual inspection showed mold in common areas such as hallways," according to a U-46 press release.

Sanders said: "We made sure that the air testing came back negative so we're good there."

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), there are several negative effects associated with mold.

"Some people are sensitive to molds," according to the CDC. "For these people, exposure to molds can lead to symptoms such as stuffy nose, wheezing, and red or itchy eyes, or skin. Some people, such as those with allergies to molds or with asthma, may have more intense reactions. Severe reactions may occur among workers exposed to large amounts of molds in occupational settings, such as farmers working around moldy hay. Severe reactions may include fever and shortness of breath."

Those with a "weakened immune system... are more likely to get mold infections," and exposure can "lead to development of asthma in some individuals," the CDC added. "Interventions that improve housing conditions can reduce morbidity from asthma and respiratory allergies."

A mold remediation page on u-46.org states that schools are inspected visually "periodically and through routine inspections," and custodians are trained to spot mold as they walk buildings daily. Those needing remediation are visually inspected and the air quality is tested through a "third party expert on the remediation and air quality testing" before they are reopened.

# Hawks JV soccer team wins two-day Rockford tournament



Pictured from left to right, front row: Oliver Moral, Victor Arano, Alfredo Arano, coach Santiago Martin, Ramiro Reyes, Cesar Palomares, David Cruz, Agustin Chavez, Israel Cuautle, Max Zlotnik, Jonathan Garcia and manager Ximena Noriega. Back row: Arturo Alfaro, David Ayala, Edgar Leon, Jose Larios, Shoumik Sivakumar, Alberto Colin, Ryan Leo, Eli Pinsel, Eddie Perez, Enrique Jimenez, Sam Fowler, Erick Mederos, Marco Noriega, Victor Becerra, Sebastian Gluszk and Alex Mueller.

(Courtesy photo)

The Bartlett JV soccer team took first place at the 17th annual JV Indian Cup tournament held in Rockford, on Sept. 21 and 22.

According to their coach, Santiago Martin, "This tournament is always in our minds from the beginning of the season. It is a grueling tournament, four games played in less than 24 hours, so you really need to have a deep roster in order to get to the final game with fresh legs. The boys deserve all the credit. We are lucky to have such a strong, deep, competitive roster. No matter who is on the field, the level of talent, skill, effort and commitment is always high. We are always looking to improve and get better. It is my pride and joy to be the coach of such a group of talented and dedicated student athletes."

During the four games played in the tournament the team posted outscored the opposition 9-1 while posting three shutouts.

Thus far this season the Hawks JV

soccer team is 12-2-2 with eight matches remaining.

# Drawing slated for wildlife area trapping permits

A public drawing for the allocation of trapping permits for Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area will be held on Saturday, Oct. 6, at 1:30 p.m. Registration will begin at 1 p.m. at the site headquarters, located approximately five miles southeast of Chandlerville.

One permit for each of the five trapping zones at the site will be allocated through a lottery drawing. All persons attempting to enter the drawing must be in attendance, and have a current 2018 trapping license in their possession.

For more information, contact phone 217-452-7741.



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# Storm totally in charge in 53-7 win over Larkin

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin football team dominated despite a slow start to earn playoff eligibility in a 53-7 win over Larkin in Upstate Eight Conference play on Saturday, Sept. 29 at South Elgin. The win was also against Storm coach Dragan Teonic's former team where he coached four years.



South Elgin's Patrick Noworol successfully making a catch in the end zone while covered by a pair of Larkin defenders for the Storm's first touchdown of the game.

Led by quarterback Azxavier Salinas (16-for-22, 217 yards), who threw four touchdown passes and two TD runs of 11 and three yards, the Storm finished with a 449-180 advantage in total yards.

"We wanted to do our best to show how (Teonic's) developed our team and made us so good," Salinas said. "We just put our all out there. I'm so proud of my team."

"It was a personal game for us," said Patrick Noworol, who ran for 47 yards and added 88 yards on four receptions. "We had to show them that we weren't messing around. We made it into the playoffs from this game."

Despite the dominance, Larkin came out strong and scored first for a 7-0 lead, but the Storm steadily rallied scoring at least 10 points in each quarter and taking a 24-7 lead into half-time.

Noworol caught a 27-yard touchdown pass from Salinas to even the score and Andrew Bucaro kicked a 32-yard field goal to take a 10-7 lead after the first quarter. Bucaro finished 6-for-6 in extra point attempts, and the Storm was also successful on one two-point conversion attempt.

Calin Gurau had touchdown receptions of 53 and 10 yards from Salinas in the third quarter, and Noworol had a one-yard run and Samuel Robles a 20-yard run for TDs in the fourth.

"The sideline did a great job of staying calm and composed," Teonic said of

the early deficit. "We were able to make a few adjustments on offense and rattled off 53 (points) in a row, which is pretty good."

The Storm defense had four interceptions including two from Shiking Marshall and one each from Davion Cherwin and Ian Nathan.

South Elgin is now 5-1 overall and in the UEC.



South Elgin's Leonides Aguirre on a run that fell just short of a touchdown in the second quarter.



Together South Elgin's Ricky Russo, left, and Jacob Cooper make a stop on the Royals' Angel Garcia.



Larkin's Pierre Black ran South Elgin's Shiking Marshall out of bounds on a play in the first quarter. (Examiner photos by Caroline Hollis)

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# Hawks soccer fall to Sabres, record with two wins

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett soccer team stayed close but was unable to find the net in a 2-0 loss to Streamwood in Upstate Eight Conference play on Monday, Sept. 24 at Millennium Field in Streamwood.

Streamwood scored once in each half, the first coming midway through the first half and the second about 12 minutes into the second half.

The Hawks offense created some attacks but struggled to get off shots on goal. Their best chance came in the final minute of play when Bartlett got two attempts off, the first a Hernan Garcia shot on goal creating a corner kick taken by Amine Medmoun which led to a header attempt by Ethan Sproule.

“Their first goal was a really well crafted goal, but the second there was a breakdown on our part,” said

Bartlett assistant coach Vince Revak.

Revak added: “I think going down against a team like this didn’t help our attack. We had some guys take some shots but didn’t have a lot of quality attempts on the net. We’re looking for some guys who can create better runs and be more creative in the attack.”

Brandon Palid, Kamil Jarzabek and Rudy Reyes were all involved in the Bartlett attack.

Hawks keeper Jeremy Taylor finished with eight saves.

Despite the loss, the Hawks did do some good things against a Streamwood club that remains undefeated in the UEC.

“As a team, you’re never happy with a loss but some are understandable,” Revak said. “We definitely have positives to take out of this game.”

Bartlett went on to win two straight

to finish the week, the first a 2-0 UEC win over Glenbard South on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Glenbard South. Anthony Garcia and Jarzabek found the net for the Hawks.

The Hawks ended the week with an 8-1 win over Antioch to finish second at the Hampshire Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 29. Bartlett scored four times in each half and led 4-1 at the break.

Reyes (two goals), Mauricio Vigil (goal, assist), Medmoun (goal), Jarzabek (goal), Nicolas Gomez (goal), Palid (goal), Omar Chavez (goal), Tyler Serpico (three assists), Kevin Nava (assist), Sproule (assist), Alex Keeler (assist) and Carlos Alfaro (assist) led the offense. Taylor had two saves.

Bartlett is now 5-9-2 overall, 2-3-1 in the UEC.

# Bartlett volleyball beats Sabres, fourth at tourney

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett volleyball team shrugged off a slow start to defeat Streamwood 25-11, 25-9 in Upstate Eight Conference play on Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Streamwood.

Streamwood delivered the first punch jumping to a 4-1 lead, but the Hawks quickly responded and controlled the rest of the night.

“We were down 4-1 and it was a little dicey there for a bit,” said Bartlett coach Bob Schwantz. “We break each set into segments and we want to win each, and they actually beat us in the first segment, the five-point mark.”

Schwantz added: “They’re on their home court and they were playing with some confidence, and we had to respond and we did.”

Game 2 was firmly in Bartlett’s hands as it built a 19-5 lead, which included three aces from Morgan Myers, and never looked back.

The Hawks had plenty of solid performances including from Ava Anagnostopoulos (eight kills, three blocks, two digs), Madison Hankins (four

kills, 10 assists), Emily Baggot (four kills), Dakota Johnson (eight assists) and Anna Monson (two blocks).

“It’s one of those game where once we got control we were able to kind of cruise from there,” Schwantz said. “We also got contributions from everybody which is always great to see.”

Bartlett was coming off a 25-16, 25-17 nonconference win over Hoffman Estates on Monday, Sept. 24 at Bartlett. Hankins (11 assists, seven kills, two digs), Johnson (11 assists), Samantha Martino (six digs, three aces) and Anagnostopoulos (five kills, one block) led the effort.

At the Hampshire Invite, the Hawks finished fourth with a 21-25, 25-10, 15-13 loss to Woodstock in the third place match on Saturday, Sept. 29. Bartlett also got its first look at UEC rival South Elgin, the Hawks falling 25-13, 25-11 in the match, as both teams are still vying for the league title with an UEC match in the final week of the regular season.

Bartlett is now 14-7 overall, 4-1 in the UEC.

# Bartlett High School will be featured on flyover

The Bartlett High School Boosters have announced that a special event at Bartlett High School on Friday, Oct. 5 when the the ABC WLS Friday Flyover will feature the Bartlett High School Activities Complex.

This event is open to the entire community as well as Bartlett High School students, families and staff.

When: Friday, Oct. 5, 5 a.m. to 7 a.m.

Where: Bartlett High School Activity Complex, 701 Schick Road.

What: WLS-TV Friday Flyover

Each week during the fall sports season, a different Chicago-area high school is featured prior to the week’s football game. This week the Hawks host Larkin High School on senior night, Friday, Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m.

# Arbor Day Foundation offering free trees for new memberships

Everyone who joins the Arbor Day Foundation in September will receive 10 free trees as part of the foundation’s Trees for America program.

Through Trees for America, everyone is encouraged to plant trees, which benefit the environment and improve the quality of life. With nearly 1 million members and supporters, the Arbor Day Foundation is the nation’s largest nonprofit organization dedicated to planting trees.

Everyone who joins this month will receive one of the following tree packages based on their location: Ten Arizona cypress, 10 live oak or 10 mix trees including eastern redbud, white pine, sugar maple, white flowering dogwood, pin oak, red maple, river birch, silver maple, northern red oak and Colorado blue spruce.

“These trees are carefully selected to yield year-round benefits, including beautiful spring flowers, cool summer shade, spectacular autumn colors, winter berries, and nesting sites for

songbirds,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “These trees will also add to the proud heritage of your state’s Tree City USA communities. For the past 40 years, Tree City USA has supported effective urban forestry management across the country, and planting these trees will enhance this tree-planting tradition.”

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Oct. 15 and Dec. 10. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Easy-to follow planting instructions are enclosed with each shipment of trees.

New members of the Arbor Day Foundation will also receive “The Tree Book,” which includes information about tree planting and care.

To receive the 10 free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Sept. 30, or join online at arbor-day.org/september.

# Reports

Continued from page 13

jumped into the back seat. The owner was located through information on rabies tags, and the two animals were returned to their owner.

Friday, Sept. 21

★ At 11:25 p.m., police responded to the vicinity of Illinois Route 59 and Smith Road for a report of a one-car collision. The officer located the site of the incident, and was informed by the driver that he had struck an animal which caused him to lose control. West Chicago police personnel later arrived to handle the crash.

Saturday, Sept. 22

★ At 3:02 p.m., police responded to the 33W block of Robin for a report of a suspicious person. The officers were unable to locate the subject.

Tuesday, Sept. 25

★ At 7:59 a.m., police responded to the 31W block of Russell for a report of a suspicious vehicle. The officer was able to determine that the vehicle in question belonged to someone living in the neighboring residence.

★ At 5:25 p.m., police responded to the vicinity of Illinois Route 25 and Pearson Road for a report of a downed wire and tree branch in the roadway. The wire was determined to be an AT&T cable, and both it and the branch were removed from the roadway with the assistance of fire department personnel.

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# Hawks dominate WeGo in homecoming rout



Bartlett's Nick Mansk on a carry in the first quarter.



The Hawks' Jake Weihe scooping up a fumble.

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett football team delivered an easy win on homecoming as the Hawks defeated West Chicago 49-0 in Upstate Eight Conference play on Friday, Sept. 28 at Bartlett.

The Hawks had six different players find the end zone starting with three touchdowns in the first quarter including two off passes from quarterback Jonah O'Brien (10-for-10, 146 yards) with a 13-yard reception from Nick Mansk (five receptions, 51 yards) and

a 40-yard reception from Spencer Konstanzer (two receptions, 52 yards).

"Everybody works their butts off in practice," O'Brien said. "It's always great when you can get that many guys involved."

Nick Deckard (18 carries, 114 yards) added a one-yard touchdown run in the first quarter, and he scored again on a 13-yard run in the third. Tyler Rivelli (four carries, 51 yards) had a 22-yard TD run and O'Brien a score on a quarterback sneak in the second quar-

ter as Bartlett took a 35-0 lead into half-time, and Anthony Siciliano added a six-yard scoring run to end the third.

Paige Bednarke was a perfect 7-for-7 on extra point attempts.

Bartlett's defense also had a stellar performance allowing just 56 total yards and forcing four turnovers, including a fumble recovery by Konstanzer to end West Chicago's best drive of the night deep into Hawks territory in the second quarter. The Hawks offense gained 376 total yards

on the night.

"We just kept things rolling and stuck to our game plan," O'Brien said. "We were able to do a lot of good things tonight."

O'Brien added: "It's the best feeling in the world to win on homecoming."

The Hawks, now 4-2 overall and in the UEC, are now a win away from playoff eligibility and two away from a guaranteed postseason spot. Bartlett has Larkin (3-3), South Elgin (5-1) and Streamwood (1-5) left on its schedule.



West Chicago's Marko Filipovic, left, and Alex Resendiz, bottom, struggled to take down Bartlett's Nick Deckard.



Spencer Konstanzer breaking away for the Hawks second touchdown of the game.



While surrounded by West Chicago's Cesar Resendiz, left, and Alex Hey, Bartlett's Alec Palella completed a catch in the first quarter.



Liam Gallagher of Bartlett attempting to intercept a pass intended for the Wildcat's Santiago Barbosa. (Examiner photos by Caroline Hollis)



Bartlett's Mathew Young rushing past West Chicago's Marko Filipovic, left, and Alex Resendiz, but was forced out of bounds.



# The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

Volume 24  
Number 21

"IF I WERE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A NEWSPAPER OR A NEWSPAPER WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT, I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO CHOOSE THE LATTER." THOMAS JEFFERSON

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Moldy U-46 schools  
allowed to reopen  
See ..... Page 3

Second half dooms  
Sabres football  
See ..... Page 5

## U-46 career pathways deferred to 2021-22 year

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 officials are still lacking some details on the planned move to college and career pathways which they hopes will be filled in with community input in the coming months according to a presentation given to the Board of Education on Monday, Sept. 24.

The pathways plan would ultimately require middle school students to select certain pathways to follow once they enter high school where each of the five U-46 high schools will house the same academies but also a unique magnet academy at each.

Based on public feedback so far, the district has pushed off implementation until the 2021-22 school year when all then freshmen will be asked to select a pathway. As sophomores they will then take foundational courses for their chosen pathway and as upper-classmen courses offering college credit and industry certification.

Officials also emphasized that current graduation requirements will remain.

Mike Demovsky, Bartlett High School's principal, said of U-46's response to feedback: "We will slow down, we are taking another year, we will create entry and exit points as well as create a liberal arts academy to allow for maximum flexibility, the same five academies will be housed at each site, students will have access to pathways not housed at their schools and students are guaranteed enrollment at their home school."

"We heard the feedback, and we know that we will need to be flexible

which is why we will include several entry and exit points within the pathway's sequence which will allow students to switch pathways in the event that their career interest changes," said Yvette Gonzalez-Collins, Ellis Middle School's principal.

The academies that will be at each high school include STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), arts, humanities, liberal arts and business. The magnet academies include STEM at Bartlett, international baccalaureate studies at Elgin, visual and performing arts at Larkin and the BEACON academy of media and digital arts at South Elgin while Streamwood's is still to be determined.

U-46 has some potential pathways for each academy but nothing is set in stone as they seek more public feedback. Demovsky said there will be surveys, town hall meetings and round table discussions.

"We're going to be developing a framework that will help us determine which pathways we have the capacity to currently implement, which pathways need to be written and what the long term process will be to add pathways in the future," said Lela Majstorovic, assistant superintendent for secondary schools instruction.

"We want our communities to tell us what they want to see in our schools," said Christopher Boden, lead counselor. "If this is going to be successful, we're going to have to work collaboratively in order to make it happen."

Board member Jeanette Ward asked what the difference between the academies and the magnet academies

would be noting that there will be STEM academies at all five high schools while Bartlett will house the magnet academy.

"That's something that we still need to work out," said Majstorovic but the magnet academies will need to offer "innovative" programming.

Board member Sue Kerr expressed concerns with how this will affect the ability to take Advanced Placement classes and expressed the same for the dual language program. Board member Veronica Noland suggested that if there's too much flexibility it could mean some classes wouldn't have enough students meaning the district would have to eliminate some pathways.

Majstorovic said U-46 is looking at these issues "going forward," but Demovsky said this shift "is not as large as you think it might be."

"Parents have been choosing classes since the history of U-46," Demovsky said. "We have been selecting classes, and we call them electives, and one of the things that we need to do as a team is reframe the word elective and just shift it to pathway."

Ward asked about the dual credit program which allows U-46 seniors, and potentially juniors in the future, to take classes at Elgin Community College. She asked if "the dual credit

program might mesh best with say the liberal arts academy" to which Boden said he "would assume so."

Along with academic details still needing some work, there are no cost estimates that have been given as of yet and board member Phil Costello said regarding the financial impact: "You're going to have to introduce those subjects too to make sure that we're grounded before we take the next step."

Owens said board members will be "trying to sell this concept" to the public and needs more information, and Majstorovic said "we hope to be able to paint a better picture" after upcoming town halls.

Six town hall meetings are scheduled at Elgin's Larkin High School (Tuesday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m.), Streamwood High School (Tuesday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.), Elgin's Kimball Middle School (Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m.), Elgin's Ellis Middle School (Thursday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m.), Bartlett High School (Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 7 p.m.) and Elgin High School (Thursday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m.).

Costello asked what the format will be for the town halls and Majstorovic said there will be a short presentation but it's "really an opportunity to get feedback and input from the participants there."

## U-46 approves pact for school resource officers

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 approved the contracts to provide school resource officers (SRO) at all of the districts middle and high schools, at its meeting on Monday, Oct. 1. The vote was 6-0, board member John Devereux was absent.

The contracts were with four municipalities to provide 14 total full-time police officers: Seven from Elgin, three from Streamwood and two each from Bartlett and South Elgin. The contracts were approved by their respective village boards and or city council before coming to the school board.

The total cost will increase by 3.4 percent to \$1 million including a \$34,068 (3.7 percent) increase in base salary from \$921,950 to \$956,018. The budget on overtime for event security did not increase, remaining at \$89,500.

The annual salary for SROs in Elgin is \$70,417 (\$492,919 total for seven), for Streamwood is \$69,921 (\$209,763 total for three), for Bartlett is \$66,066 (\$132,132 total for two) and for South Elgin is \$60,602 (\$121,204 total for two). The hourly overtime rate is \$69 for Elgin, \$67.48 for Bartlett, \$63.50 for South Elgin and \$50.43 for Streamwood.

At the Sept. 24 meeting when the contracts were presented to the school board, U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said

the contracts were "pretty much the same contracts as before" with the exception of language changes regarding police body cameras in Elgin's contract.

John Heiderscheidt, director of safety and culture, wrote in a memo to the board regarding that change: "After legal review by the City and School District, language was included regarding Elgin Police officers body worn cameras while on-duty working in schools. If a police body worn camera is activated by the officer per department procedure, within IL Law, such recordings are student records and will be handled pursuant to the Illinois School Student Records Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act."

Heiderscheidt's memo stated that there were no language changes to the Bartlett and South Elgin contracts and "minor word changes but nothing of substance" to Streamwood's.

Elgin's contract included further "minor" language changes according to Heiderscheidt as well as additional language that "the chief of police makes the final decision on selection of the Elgin police officer assigned as an SRO" and "the reporting officer only reports on the specific school designated."



### Heading for a setback

The Sabres' Michael Ruben executing a header between the Blackhawks' Ziyad Yacoubou, left, and teammate Bryan Mora during a losing match against West Aurora on Monday, Oct. 1 at Millennium Field. For story and more photos see page 8.

(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)



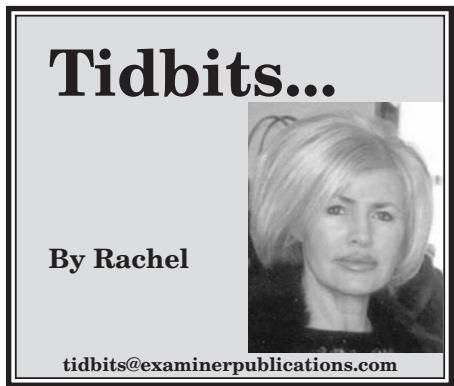
# The dilemma of downsizing: Keep it or toss it?

I've been hearing several people talking about downsizing their homes, especially that they are considering selling their home and moving into a condo. People who've lived in their homes for years after their children are grown are thinking about finding a smaller space with less upkeep which may even be a townhouse or apartment. Often I've thought about doing the same since we find our house getting stuffed with items we no longer need and being too big to take care of anymore. I imagine many people feel that way having hung onto stuff simply for sentimental reasons which leads to a cluttered home. Even though we've told the kids to take all their stuff with them to their own home they don't do it since they are young and can only afford to live in smaller quarters. We've discussed downsizing many times after going downstairs to put away all of the Christmas decorations which include boxes upon boxes which leaves little room to walk around. At the bottom of the Christmas box pile sit other cartons that we haven't even opened since our last move. Clearly we don't need anything inside of those containers.

I got concerned when one of my friends, let's call her Martha, was thinking about getting rid of her excess stuff that she had accumulated down in the basement after becoming a widow. She decided to downsize because she found a lovely small condo for herself and her three cats. I told her that I would be happy to help her get ready for the move. I later regretted this offer because I was shocked at not only the amount of stuff in the basement, but at the number of boxes she had never opened in over 25 years! We decided to clean out and toss anything she didn't need but once we started digging there were items with which she was unwilling to part. There were albums with hundreds of pictures of her kids, husband and relatives as well as friends she didn't remember having. That's how long those boxes of pictures were buried in the basement.

Today, many people have been storing pictures in their cell phones or

transferring the old ones into videos which is a wonderful idea. We found several pictures that were so faded they had to be discarded. Those that were still in good shape were placed in a container to put on video for her



children. Some of the biggest surprises we found were things inside of the boxes from her husband. Imagine finding several leisure suits from the 70's including beads? Today's millennials wouldn't know what leisure suits are which gave us a good laugh. He also kept his U.S. Army uniforms and some of the medals he earned while serving his country.

Eventually, we opened up a box with dozens of 78 and 33 records her hubby had stashed that were in pretty good condition. Also two more boxes of magazines he collected over the years that had obviously become collector items promising her a pretty nice price should she decide to sell them. To my surprise we discovered a box with tons of bottles of perfume that she was allergic to which made me wonder why on Earth she would have kept them? Apparently she didn't want to hurt her friend's and family's feelings by tossing them. When she would go out for lunch or dinnertime with them she would squirt a dash of the perfume on a hanky and keep it in her purse until she got home so that they would think she wore their perfume. Yes, it was a bit silly but she meant well. I also discovered my friend was definitely a pack rat because most people would have never kept toys from the 40s when she grew up. However, I did consider that maybe by hanging onto those old toys she would be able to fetch a pretty penny

for the items.

Even if you are not downsizing and planning to move to a smaller dwelling, it is a good idea to go through your home as if you are leaving. Most of us tend to hang on to things we no longer need which can lead to a messy house that collects way too much dust. Moving or not you can downsize your life which is healthy for all of us both mentally and physically.

Join the Knight of Columbus for the 2018 Knight's Challenge 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, Oct. 6 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 502 S. Park Blvd., Streamwood. Race time is 8:30 a.m. Proceeds to benefit the Hanover Township Food Pantry. For more information and to register, visit their website at 5k.kofc12801.org.

Please join the Tri-Village Garden Club of Bartlett, Hanover Park and Streamwood on Wednesday, Oct. 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Poplar Creek Public Library, 1405 S. Park, Streamwood, to hear "Incredible Bats" by Daniel and Sharon Peterson. The Petersons have been educating people about bats since 1996. They love bats, and use their experience and knowledge to dispel the myths surrounding these misunderstood creatures. They will also bring along their pet/resident skunk. This event is free to the public. For additional information, please contact Wally Groble 497-1958 or Sandy Swenson 837-0281 or visit their web site at www.trivillagegardenclub.org/word press.

The Jacob's Farm Home Owners Association is hosting the Jacob's Farm Charity Fun Run on Saturday, Oct. 20, 3 to 6 p.m. at Sunny Hill Park, 1400 E. Irving Park Road, Streamwood This event raises money for Hilltop Elementary, a local Streamwood and Elgin U-46 school. The funds will help to purchase essential technology and books that will support students academic performance. Participants can register online at https://www.racentry.com/races/jacobs-farm-charity-fun-run/2018/register. Further information is available on the Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/events/464235860727459/.

The Streamwood Choral Society is looking for crafters, artists, and vendors for the fourth annual Holiday Arts Extravaganza! Craft Fair taking place on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Streamwood High School. The craft fair supports the musical arts in Streamwood including high school

scholarships, the Streamwood High School music department, and the Streamwood Children's Choir. For more information go to hae18.eventbrite.com, email the Streamwood Choral Society at streamwoodchoralsociety@gmail.com, or call Nicole Hain at 847-207-8043.

Take time to give back to your local community by joining the Streamwood Woman's Club. Enjoy fellowship with members who work on local philanthropic projects to help the community become a better place to live. They meet at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month, September through May, at the Streamwood Police Station. Membership is open to any woman who is 18 years and older. Not restricted to Streamwood residents. Contact Anita at 247-2359 for more information.

West Suburban Patriots Patriots Breakfasts are held on the second Saturday of each month from 9 until 11 a.m. at Wheaton Bowl banquet room in Wheaton. There is no charge to attend their meetings. An a la carte breakfast is available for a nominal fee. Wheaton Bowl is located at 2031 N. Gary Ave. For more details, see westsuburbanpatriots.com.

Interested in playing bridge? Join in at the Hanover Township Senior Center, Illinois Route 59, Bartlett. Bridge is played on the second and fourth Tuesdays (duplicate bridge on the first and third) from 1 to 4 p.m. Open to all residents in the area. For more information, call 483-5600.

Operation Airlift-Donations are being accepted at the following locations: VFW Post 5151, 520 S. Bartlett Road, 483-0055, email contact@vfw5151.org; and Streamwood Chamber of Commerce, 22 W. Streamwood Blvd.

Animal Shelter Supply Drive supporting various animal rescue groups. Kitten/cat/dog food of any kind, cat litter/pans, collars, leashes, carriers/crates/cages, toys, scratching posts, cat condos, pet beds, old towels. Donation bin located at Heartland Animal Hospital on Stearns and Illinois Route 59.

## Sabres soccer top Hawks, WeGo also play to draw with Larkin

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood soccer team remained undefeated in the Upstate Eight Conference with a 2-0-1 week starting with a 2-0 victory over Bartlett on Monday, Sept. 24 at Millennium Field.

Midway through the first half, Alex Chavez put the first goal on the board off an Edwin Peralta feed, and the 1-0 lead remained until about 12 minutes into the second half when Jose Banuelos found the net.

The Sabres, however, had plenty more chances to add more with a 10-4 advantage in shots on goal while also taking 17 total shots.

"I'll take the win anytime, but when you know you could have put five, six more goals on the board it's a little frustrating," said Streamwood coach Matt Polovin.

Polovin added: "We were pretty quick with the ball and keeping up our pace. We just weren't quite as composed in the final third as we needed to be."

Chavez and Jesus Limon were constant threats with five and four total shots respectively and Streamwood had other opportunities from Rolando Martinez, Bryan Mora, Banuelos and Michael Rubio. Streamwood goalie Antonio Herrera made four saves.

Despite missing out on some added goals, Chavez said his team got the job done.

"Every win gives us a little more confidence," Chavez said. "We could have added a few more, but we played our best on our own field and got the win which is what matters."

Streamwood went on to finish in a 2-2 tie against Larkin on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Millennium Field. The game was scoreless at halftime when both teams found the net twice in the second half with Peralta and Chavez both scoring, each assisting on the other's goal, and keeper Hector Alfaro made three saves.

Against West Chicago, the Sabres earned a 3-1 victory on Saturday, Sept. 29 at West Chicago. Streamwood took a 2-1 lead into halftime.

Chavez had a goal and an assist and both Martinez and Limon scored a goal. Alejandro Morales added an assist, and Alfaro made two saves.

Streamwood is now 10-3-3 overall, 3-0-2 in the UEC, heading into the final two weeks of the regular season as it prepares for the Hampshire Sectional where the Sabres are seeded second.

"These are the games we want to get us ready for the postseason," Polovin said. "We need to keep focused and prepared for the final push."

**Rachel Gies** surprises her readers with this suspenseful thriller. **The Darkness Within** is a murder mystery that is hot, hot, hot. Kate and her brother, Nick, are being terrorized. Someone is playing cat and mouse with them as they unveil illegal shipments and are in danger of becoming the beast's next victim as they get closer to the truth. The list of suspects is constantly changing. Terror and suspense explode as it all comes to a terrifying shocking end. Previously self published books include **Captured Pearl** and **One Size Fits Most**.

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# Streamwood toppled by West Aurora 2-0

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood soccer team suffered its first setback in the Upstate Eight Conference falling 2-0 to West Aurora on Monday, Oct. 1 at Millennium Field.

West Aurora scored early taking a 1-0 lead in the 14th minute. That lead remained until the 78th minute when the visitors converted a penalty kick which also resulted in a Streamwood red card leaving the Sabres down a man the rest of the game.

Streamwood's best scoring chance came in the final 14 minutes of the first half when a Jesus Limon shot hit off the right post.

Ultimately, the game was relatively even in terms of possession but the Sabres attack struggled to get quality shots off.

"In the final third, we just didn't put any shots on frame," said Streamwood coach Matt Polovin. "We didn't test the keeper like we usually do."

Polovin added: "I think we've got to be a little more selfish in the final third. We've got to take fewer touches and take more shots when we get near the net."

In the final four minutes of the first half, Edwin Peralta created pressure with a free kick and an Alex Chavez shot went wide. Limon and Alejandro Morales each had a shot on goal in the second half for Streamwood.

Sabres goalie Hector Alfaro finished with three saves.

Streamwood fell to 10-4-3 overall, 3-1-2 in the UEC.

"It's not the type of game you want to



With the ball on his foot, the Sabres' Alex Chavez leading a first half rush into the Blackhawks end of the pitch while pursued by West Aurora's Zlyad Yacoubou.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

have this close to the postseason," Polovin said. "We'll see another team like that in the postseason."



Streamwood's Edwin Peralta leaving the turf to play a ball of his chest and turn the action in the other direction against West Aurora.



While attempting to secure the ball, Streamwood keeper Hector Alfaro was fouled by West Aurora's Andy Emile.



The Blackhawks' Zlyad Yacoubou, left, battling Streamwood's Jorge Bracamontes along a sideline with Bracamontes trying to win possession of an elevated ball.